

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Shuichi HIRATA et al. Confirmation No.: 3667
Appln. No. : 10/596,218 Examiner: P. D. Kim
Filed : June 5, 2006 Group Art Unit: 3729
For : METHOD OF CONTROLLING CONTACT LOAD IN ELECTRONIC
COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

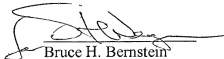
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Issue Fee
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 15, 2008 and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicants wish to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication of allowability, Applicants submit that each of the claims in the present application recite a combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the combination of features recited therein.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Shuichi HIRATA et al.


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February 24, 2009
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